Vaccines of Hepatitis-B

*159. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the vaccines of Hepatitis-B are freely available in India;

(b) if so, what are their names, names of manufacturers and respective prices;

(c) whether some such vaccines are being indigenously manufactured; and

(d) what steps are being taken to make the vaccines abundantly available and at a low price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) Hepatitis-B Vaccine is not manufactured in India. However, presently the vaccine is being imported and marketed in the country by two companies as per details given below:

(i) Recombinant Hepatitis-B vaccine (Engerix-B) by Smithkline Beecham India Ltd., Banglaore.

(ii) Plasma derived Hepatitis-B vaccine (Hepavax-B) by V.H. Bhagat & Co., Mumbai).

The retail price of 1 ml vial of Energix-B is approximately Rs. 485/- and of Hebavax-B is about Rs. 210 per ml.

(c) and (d) Indigenous Hepatitis-B vaccine is claimed to have been developed by M/s Shanta Biotechnics, Hyderabad and M/s Bharat Biotech International, Hyderabad which is at the investigation stage. A Public Sector Undertaking Bharat Immunological and Biologicals Corporation Ltd. has also initiated steps to produce Plasma derived Hepatitis-B vaccine under Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme.

Losses incurred by Air India by leasing aircrafts

*160. SHRI MD. SALIM:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the losses incurred by Air India on account of leasing of aircrafts;

(b) whether any inquiry/investigation has been ordered into the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the proposed follow-up action against those who have been responsible for the loss; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Losses incurred by Air India on operations (passenger) undertaken with aircraft taken on wet-lease are:-

(Rs. in crore)

1995-96 (Provisional)	1996-97 (Estimated) (Upto September '96)
96.54	88.75

These losses were incurred on account of the strategy of growth and expansion of Air India's operations and disruptions due to industrial unrest.

(b) to (d) Allegations of kickbacks in the wet-leasing agreements is under verification of Central Bureau of Investigation.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Operation of IA's aircrafts

1023. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) number of aircrafts actually in operation which are owned by Indian Airlines;

(b) number of aircrafts of Indian Airlines which are air worthy but not being operated; and

(c) full details of such aircrafts not being operated by Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) The number of aircraft which are used for operation by Indian Airlines as on date is 55. (including three B-737-200 aircraft transferred to Alliance Air).

(b) None.

(c) Does not arise.

Violation of air safety norms

1024. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines management has questioned the pilots of IA flight IC-108 involved in a near mid air collision over Delhi in January 1997, on how a Union Minister happened to sit in the cockpit of the flight in violation of safety norms and DGCA regulations;

(b) if so, the details of the incident; and

(c) the action taken to ensure that the air safety norms are not flouted in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir. Directorate General of Civil Aviation's (DGCA) Regulations permit entry of Minister of Civil Aviation into aircraft cockpit for inspection. Besides, IC-168 was not involved in near mid air collision over Delhi in January, 1997.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

मुम्बई और दिल्ली विमानपत्तनों पर एरोब्रिज का ढह जाना

1025. **श्री मूलचन्द मीणा:** क्या नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या मुम्बई और दिल्ली विमानपत्तनों पर बना एरोब्रिज अक्सर ढह जाता है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1994, 1995 और 1996 में हुई दुर्घटनाओं का क्रमश: ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इन दुर्घटनाओं के जिम्मेदार व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है; और

(घ) इन विमानपत्तनों के कार्यकरण में सुधार के लिए क्या-क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं?

नागर विमानन मंत्री तथा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री सी॰ एम॰ इब्राहीम): (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) से (घ) ये प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Obtaining additional land for Visakhapatnam Airport from local Port Trust

1026. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Airports Authority discussed the issue of obtaining additional land for Visakhapatnam Airport from the local Port Trust;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Port Trust of Visakhapatnam is willing to lease land in the sea-side for extension of runway at a nominal charge; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to finalise the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Landing facilities at Cuddapah in Andhra Pradesh

1027. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director General of Civil Aviation studied airport landing facilities at Cuddapah in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the status of such facilities;

(c) whether technically the airport could be used by small aircrafts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and